

Wiretap is an established legal principle, but CALEA requests authority to restrict computer applications communicating over the internet, which can easily include strong encryption. Professional criminals will add this function to commercial US applications, or use foreign, custom-written, or non-commercial applications, and the legislation will be powerless to prevent it. The legislation will, however, handicap domestic VoIP providers against their foreign competition. Furthermore, although it will presumably have little effect on illegal communication, CALEA will certainly make it easier for law enforcement to gather information on law-abiding citizens for smear campaigns. Please reconsider.